

REMARKS

Claims 4-7, 11-13, 15-16, and 18-21 are pending in the application. Claims 5-7, 12-13, 15-16, and 18-20 have been amended, and claims 1-3, 8-10, 14, and 17 have been cancelled. Claims 4 and 11 have been allowed. Claim 21 recites a structure similar to claim 11 and has been added to further claim allowable subject matter. No new matter has been introduced by the amendment. The applicant believes that the amended claims place the application in condition for allowance and respectfully requests entry of the amendment.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1, 3, and 7 have been rejected over Yu. This rejection is believed to overcome in view of the amendment of cancellation of claims 1 and 3, and the amendment of claim 7 to depend from allowed claim 4.

Claims 1-2, 6, 8-10, and 12-20 have been rejected over Lin et al. This rejection is believed overcome in view of the cancellation of claims 1-2, 8-10, 14, and 17, and the amendment of claim 6 to depend from allowed claim 4, and the amendment of claims 12-13, 15-16, and 18-20 to depend from allowed claim 11.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 and 5 have been rejected over Lee et al. in view of Iwai et al. This rejection is believed overcome in view of the cancellation of claim 1 and the amendment of claim 5 to depend from allowed claim 4.

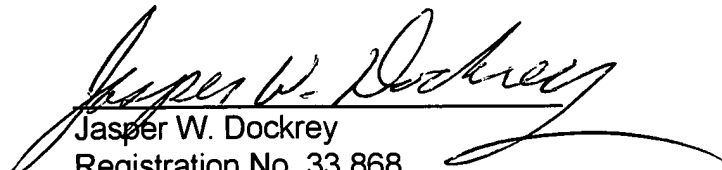
New Claim

Claim 21 is newly added and recites an input protection device in which the anode and the substrate region comprise semiconductor material of opposite conductivity types. This claim is believed to distinguish over the prior art for at least the same reasons as allowed claim 11.

The applicant has made a novel and non-obvious contribution to the art of transistor and circuit design for device components intended to handle high voltages in various kinds of semiconductor circuits. The claims at issue are believed to distinguish

over the cited references and to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, such allowance is now earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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